

Worship in Song

God so loved that he gave his Son

Video - Evidence for the resurrection

Welcome and Opening Prayer

We are here today because the weeping Mary once said: 'I have seen the Lord.'

We are here today because Jesus still comes into our locked spaces and says: 'Peace be with you; receive the Holy Spirit.'

We are here today like doubting Thomas who finally cried: 'My Lord and my God.'

We are here today like Peter, who went fishing and then heard Jesus say: 'Do you truly love me?'

We are here today because the angel said 'Do not be afraid. Jesus is not here; he has been raised from the dead and is going ahead of you to Galilee.'

And so we gather here today and shout: Hallelujah. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

Worship in Song

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven you came running
There was mercy in your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

And the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By his blood and in His Name
In his freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Confession

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Bible Reading

Acts 2.14, 36-41 (*Church Bible page 910*)

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Worship in Song

God's saints of old through history told
Of the One who was to come
A Son a King a Lamb to be slain
For the sins of all the world

He's the Promise of the Ages
Lifted up to save us, Jesus Christ our sacrifice
He's the Fount of living water
King and Friend forever
Bow before the Promise of the Ages

In flesh He came yet chose to remain
With the outcast and the poor
He bled He died was raised glorified
Now He lives forever more

Bridge

Lift your hands and sing hallelujah to the
King of all the earth
Raise your voice and sing hallelujah to the
King of all the earth

Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

Prayers

At the end: Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Offertory Prayer

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive

those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We receive communion

Worship in Song

The head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords
Is his by sovereign right,
The King of Kings and Lord of Lords
He reigns in perfect light.

The joy of all who dwell above,
The joy of all below,
To whom he manifests his love,
And grants his name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,
With all its grace, is given,
Their name an everlasting name,
Their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below;
They reign with him above;
Their profit and their joy, to know
The mystery of his love.

The cross he bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to him:
His people's hope, his people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

Worship in Song

All heaven declares
The glory of the risen Lord
Who can compare with
The beauty of the Lord
Forever he will be
The Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee
And worship him alone

I will proclaim
The glory of the risen Lord
Who once was slain
To reconcile man to God
Forever you will be
The Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee
And worship you alone

Worship in Song

All I once held dear, built my life upon,
All this world reveres, and wars to own,
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

Knowing you, Jesus,
Knowing you, there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
And I love you, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know you more,
To be found in you and known as yours.
To possess by faith what I could not earn,
All surpassing gift of righteousness.

Oh to know the power of your risen life,
And to know you in your sufferings.
To become like you in your death, my Lord,
So with you to live and never die.

Prayer after Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to
his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the
eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his
redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now
and for ever. **Amen.**

Worship in Song

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night
We will walk the valley with you by our side
You will go before us, you will lead the way
We have found a refuge only you can save

Sing with joy now our God is for us
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress
Raise your voice now no love is greater
Who can stand against us if our God is for us

Even when I stumble, even when I fall
Even when I turn back still your love is sure
You will not abandon, you will not forsake
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace

Bridge

Neither height nor depth can separate us
Hell and death will not defeat us
He who gave his Son to free us
Holds me in his love

Blessing

Heavenly Father, you have bestowed upon us
eternal life, bought for us with the precious
blood of your Son, Jesus Christ; and you made
us your children by his triumphant death and
resurrection. Empower us with your Holy
Spirit, we pray, as we now go out to serve you
to bring praise and glory to your name. And
may the blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hallelujah. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

Music as we leave

In the darkness we were waiting